

SITREP



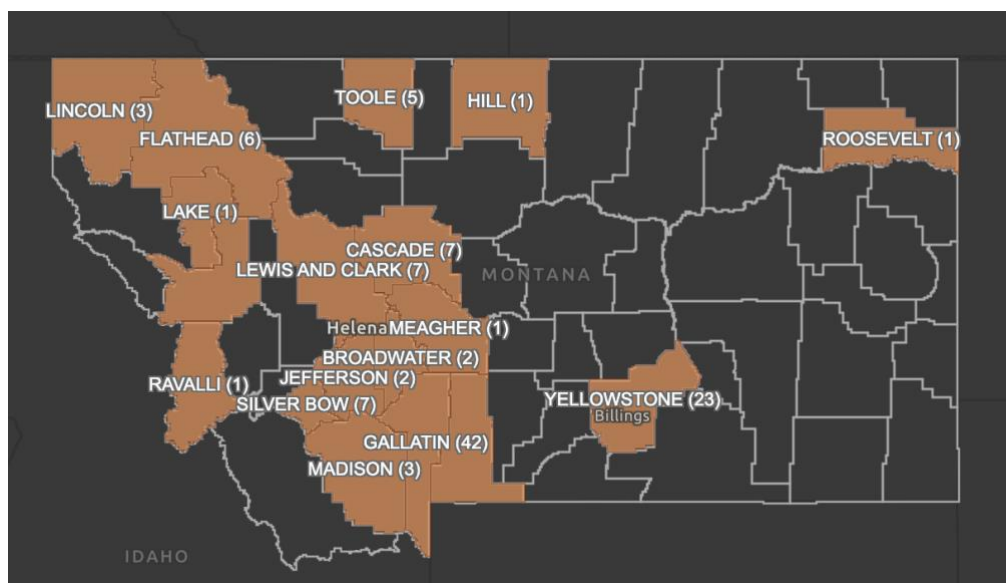
MONTANA
HOSPITAL
ASSOCIATION

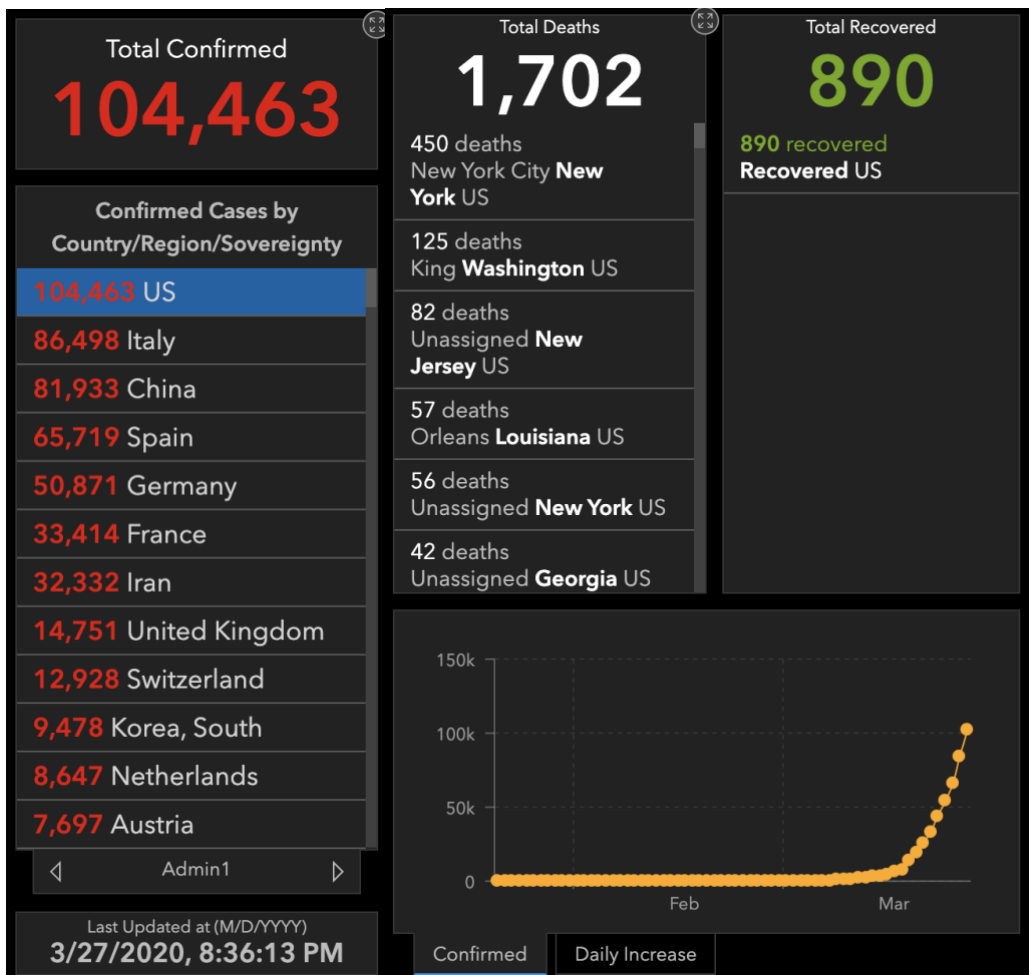
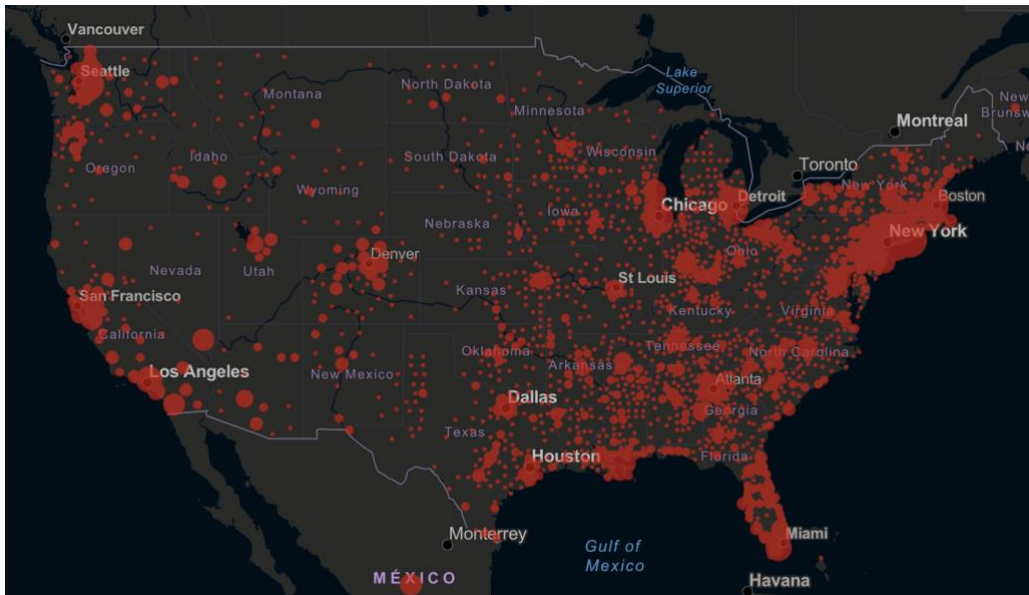
Montana Hospital Association - Situation Report

March 27, 2020

COVID-19

REPORTED CASES	
Montana <i>Hospitalized: 7</i> <i>New in last 24 hours: 31 (+34%)</i>	121
United States <i>New in last 24 hours: 18,623 (+22%)</i> Source: Johns Hopkins CSSE Global Outbreak Dashboard	104,463
WA	3,723
ID	230
WY	73
ND	68
SD	58





CMS and FDA to host webinar/call on Saturday, March 28 for physicians. Leaders from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services and Food and Drug Administration will host a webinar on Saturday, March 28 from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. MST for physicians on COVID-19. The webinar topic will be focused on therapeutics, and participants are invited to share strategies, insights and ideas.

The information for the webinar/call follows. You must register to participate in the webcast portion.

Participant Dial In: 877-251-0301

Conference ID: 9409959

[Audio Webcast – Register Here](#)

OPERATIONS

Missoula-manufactured VTM available. MHA today informed materials managers and lab managers on the availability of COVID-19 viral transport media manufactured in Missoula. As we approach [peak](#) testing, we will see a spike in demand. These are bulk aliquots of VTM for COVID-19 testing per CDC protocol, utilizing molecular grade buffer (DNase, RNase, protease-free). Please contact Jeff Pease with Rocky Mountain Biologicals at 406-274-8837 or JPease@RMBIO.com with questions about the test media.

FDA releases diagnostic technologies guide, approves nasal swabs for testing. Yesterday the FDA also released its most current and comprehensive listing of [FDA-approved diagnostic technologies](#). Initially, nasopharyngeal swab were the only recommended swabs to be used for diagnostic testing of COVID-19. Subsequently, FDA identified a number of other swabs that were available to collect samples. Now, FDA has [newly released information](#) that recommends for symptomatic patients, nasal swabs could be used that access just the front of the nose rather than the depth of the nasal cavity. This would provide COVID-19 testing that is more comfortable for patients, allows self-collection of samples at collection sites, and that can be performed with a simpler and more readily available swab.

WHO: Maintaining Essential Health Services During an Outbreak. The WHO released Operational Guidance for [Maintaining Essential Health Services](#) During an Outbreak. This document provides guidance on a set of targeted immediate actions that countries should consider at national, regional, and local level to reorganize and maintain access to high-quality essential health services for all.

PLANNING

Resource Reporting to Juvare (EMResource). Continue to report bed availability and PPE item inventory. Please complete all daily updates by 8:00AM each morning. For assistance, contact your [Healthcare Preparedness Program \(HPP\) region coordinator](#).

Repurposing ventilators. FDA has issued [guidance allowing ventilators from outpatient surgical centers and clinics](#) to be modified by changing a vent. This

policy will assist states with being able to identify a whole new range of ventilators that could be easily converted, add to their supply, and focused at the point of the need in their states. Anesthesiologists Patient Safety Foundation (APSF)/American Society of Anesthesiologists (ASA) has issued guidance on [purposing anesthesia machines as ICU ventilators](#).

LOGISTICS

Emergency PPE requests. All requests for emergency PPE and other resources must be submitted to the local county LEPC or Disaster and Emergency Services/Emergency Management coordinator.

Second shipment of PPE arrives from the Strategic National Stockpile; facility contact survey responses due Sunday. Allocation and delivery are being coordinated by DPHHS. To ensure that the State sends PPE to the correct locations, MHA Office Manager Vickey Simonson sent a brief contact verification survey to hospital CEOs, CFOs and materials managers on behalf of state planners. To be eligible to receive a shipment the **survey must be completed by 5:00 PM on Sunday, March 29.**

FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION

Short primer on telehealth and COVID-19. This [primer](#) from Hall Render includes specifics related to Montana Medicaid and addresses some reimbursement issues.

Emergency financing options from the Small Business Administration. SBA Economic Injury Disaster Loan can provide up to \$2 million to help meet financial obligations and operating expenses. For the SBA forgivable payroll loan, borrowers are eligible for loan forgiveness equivalent to the sum spent on covered expenses during the eight-week period after the loan is originated. Both programs are just being released. More information will be available [here](#) in the coming days.

PacificSource Health Plan announces provider relief plan. The plan includes the suspension of a number of prior authorization, reporting and credentialing requirements along with some accelerated payment provisions. A [letter sent to providers](#) today outlines the steps being taken, effective immediately through June 30, 2020.

How to spot a supplier scam during the COVID-19 crisis. Intalere, MHA's group purchasing organization partner, has pulled together a few ideas to help your team spot a scam before it jeopardizes operations. Read the article [here](#).

COMMUNICATIONS

Apple launches COVID-19 screening app for consumers. Apple's app, developed in partnership with the White House Coronavirus Task Force, HHS and the CDC, guides users through a series of questions about their health and exposure to determine if they should seek care for COVID-19 symptoms. The [screening tool](#) provides CDC recommendations on next steps including guidance on social distancing and self-isolating, how to closely monitor symptoms, recommendations on testing, and when to contact a medical provider.

SITREP Archive. Daily Situation Reports archived [here](#).

State of Montana COVID-19 Hotline: 1-888-333-0461

Montanans can also email questions to covid19info@mt.gov. State public health officials will be responding to inquiries from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Friday.

MHA Incident Management Team: esf8@mtha.org

REFERENCE LINKS

GENERAL

Contact Information: [Local & Tribal County Health Departments](#)

[MHA COVID-19 Member Resources](#)

[State of Montana COVID-19 Information](#)

[Centers for Disease Control and Prevention COVID-19 Information](#)

REVISED: [Healthcare Professionals Preparedness Checklist](#) (CDC)

REVISED: [Hospital Preparedness Tool](#) (CDC)

[COVID-19 FAQs for Healthcare Providers](#) (CDC)

EMS

[EMS Infectious Disease Playbook](#) (ASPR/TRACIE)

[Montana EMS Guidance](#) (DPHHS)

REGULATORY

[EMTALA Requirements and Implications Related to COVID-19](#) (CMS)

[PHI Guidance for COVID-19 First Responders](#) (OCR/HHS)

CLINICAL CARE

[March 24 Memo to Montana Healthcare Providers on COVID-19 Testing](#) (DPHHS)

REVISED: [Evaluating and Testing Persons for COVID-19](#)(CDC)

REVISED: [Guidelines for Collecting, Handling and Testing Clinical Specimens](#) (CDC)

[Clinical Guidance for Management of Patients with Confirmed COVID-19](#) (CDC)

[COVID-19 and Underlying Medical Conditions](#) (CDC)

FAQs: [Higher Risk Persons](#) & [Underlying Conditions](#) (CDC)

NEW: [Discontinuation of Transmission-Based Precautions of Patients with COVID-19](#) (CDC)

RETIREMENT COMMUNITIES

[Guidance for Retirement Communities and Independent Living](#) (CDC)

[Preventing the Spread of COVID-19 in Retirement Communities and Independent Living Facilities](#) (CDC)

[COVID-19 Checklist: Older Persons](#) (CDC)

TELEHEALTH

[Medicare Telehealth FAQ](#) (CMS)

[Montana Medicaid Coverage & Reimbursement Policy for Telehealth Services](#)
(DPHHS)

[Telehealth Toolkit for General Practitioners](#) (CMS)

[Telehealth Toolkit for Providers of End-Stage Renal Disease Patients](#) (CMS)

Watch: [“COVID-19 Telehealth Waiver Made Simple”](#) (PYA)

INFECTION PREVENTION & CONTROL

[Infection Prevention and Control Recommendations for Patients with Suspected or Confirmed COVID-19 in Healthcare Settings](#) (CDC)

[Additional Guidance for Infection Control and Prevention of COVID-19 in Home Health Agencies](#) (CMS)

[Additional Guidance for Infection Control and Prevention of COVID-19 in Dialysis Facilities](#) (CMS)

[Additional Guidance for Infection Control and Prevention of COVID-19 in Nursing Homes](#) (CMS)

[Additional Guidance for Infection Control and Prevention of COVID-19 by Hospice Agencies](#) (CMS)

PPE

[Strategies for Optimizing the Supply of PPE](#) (CDC)

[Extending the Use and/or Reusing Respiratory Protection During Disasters](#) (APIC)

[Temporary Enforcement Guidance – Healthcare Respiratory Protection](#) (OSHA)

[PPE Supply Equivalents & Price Guide](#) (AHRMM)

[Conserving Facemasks and Respirators During a Critical Shortage](#) (TJC)

[PPE Burn Rate Calculator](#) (CDC)

WORKFORCE PROTECTION & SUPPORT

[Management of Healthcare Personnel with Potential Exposure to Patients with COVID-19](#) (CDC)

[Criteria for Return to Work for Healthcare Personnel](#) (CDC)

[Montana Hospital Mutual Aid System Memo & Agreement](#)

[COVID-19 Safety Training Resources](#) (NIH)

[COVID-19 and the American Workplace Toolkit](#) (US Dept. of Labor)

[Memo on Registration for Out-of-State Licensees](#) (MT DLI)

COMMUNITY MITIGATION STRATEGIES

[Mitigation Strategies for Communities with Local COVID-19 Transmission](#) (CDC)

[Tips to Keep Children Healthy While School's Out](#) (CDC)

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